

Public Comments at TWDB Meetings

General Guidelines for Public Comment

Anyone wishing to make a comment must register prior to the meeting. A citizen may register to speak on a specific item, register to make a general spoken comment, or register a written comment.

Commenting on a Specific Item

If a citizen wishes to comment on a specific agenda item, he/she must make that clear when registering prior to the meeting. When the specific item is up, the Chairman will call his/her name to come to the podium.

Making a General Comment

At each Board meeting, there is a standing item for public comments. Those who wish to comment on a topic not applicable to another agenda item may register to speak at this time. During this item, the Chairman will call his/her name to come to the podium. The Board is not allowed to respond to any comments not affiliated with an agenda item.

Speaking Rules

- Each speaker should identify himself/herself before providing his/her public comment;
- Each speaker will receive three (3) minutes and should be careful to not exceed that time, as a courtesy to other members of the public waiting to offer comments; time will be signaled to speakers using a lighting system. When the yellow light is illuminated, the speaker should begin to wrap up his or her comment. When the red light is illuminated, the speaker's time is up;
- No portion of a speaker's allotted time may be given (assigned, relinquished, donated) to another speaker; and
- Comments made during the Finance Committee meeting will be placed on the record for both the Finance Committee meeting and the Board meeting. Therefore, a speaker may only comment once. Any speaker with a preference for either the Finance Committee or the Board meeting must indicate which meeting he/she will be commenting at on the registration form.

Handouts and Visual Aids

No PowerPoint presentations or visual aids will be allowed during the general comment period. If a commenter has handouts for the Board members, he/she will need to provide eight (8) copies.

Media at Board Meetings

Video and audio at all Board meetings is recorded and available on the Agency's website. It shall be understood that members of the public in the audience may be seen or heard on these recordings. If photos are taken at the meetings, it shall be understood that members of the public in the audience may be visible. Permission will not be requested from audience members for use of video, audio or photos for Agency business.